

2K 3-1-20

23 July 1952

STAT



STAT

We have now completed the investigation requested by your letter of 10 July 1952 to General Smith, Director of Central Intelligence. Your indignation at the cancellation without advance notice of the program in which [redacted] were participating is entirely understandable and General Smith has instructed me to thank you for calling this attention to his attention.

STAT

There has been an unfortunate series of delays in the handling of this matter within this Agency but no constructive purpose can be served by going over these errors now. Correspondence and conversations with the producers in question, which gave them every reason to assume their services would be required, were, in fact, unnecessary. The program was cancelled at the eleventh hour in a manner which certainly appears to be irresponsible.

The only justification that can be offered for the extremely late notice which the Agency gave to the prospective consultants is that it was better to keep them from coming to Washington than to bring them here with nothing to do.

STATOTHR

On one aspect of this matter on which you speculated, I can give you positive and, I think, helpful information. Membership, or former membership, in the [redacted] is no cause disqualification a scholar for CIA employment. We are well aware of the fact that such scholars in the far East field are, or have at one time or another been, members of IMA, if for no other reason than, as you point out, to receive subscriptions to its publications.

STATOTHR

MORI/CDF

I am satisfied that no individual in this organization ever threatened [redacted]. I have located the man who had the talk with [redacted] to which you refer, but he is as shocked at the implication that anything he said could have been interpreted as threatening [redacted] your research bureau, or the College with loss of reputation as you are properly shocked by this report. As this talk was held at the request of Senator Ferguson's office, [redacted] had been there, it is clear that our own [redacted] office to discourage [redacted] from seeking the Senator, as you say. The note of the discussion, written the same day, makes clear that the subject matter was, at [redacted] request, purely hypothetical, and directed at what our practice is in cases where security is involved.

It is quite obvious that this entire situation has not been wisely handled within this Agency, and I can assure you that steps have been taken which should avoid a recurrence of such unfortunate circumstances. For your information, letters have been sent to Messrs. [redacted] expressing the interest of the Agency in acquiring the material which they may have prepared in anticipation of their work here. We have a use for and a substantial interest in such material. I am hopeful that we can recompense the individuals for this valuable material on a basis which will be entirely satisfactory to them.

Thanking you again for calling this to our attention,

Very truly yours,

Stuart Heston
Inspector General

L.G.
SH:b

Orig-addressees
1-BA/BU
1-AD/Personnel
1-OGG
2-signer

1 - 10 &
1 - Admin files